Acute shortage of Kerosene in Assam

3715. SHRI BHADRESHWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is acute shortage of Kerosene oil in the rural areas as well as in urban areas in Assam; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to improve the supply of Kerosene in the near future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) SKO is a deficit product in the country. On account of constraints such as import capacity limitation and foreign exchange, the allocation of SKO to the States could not be increased during the last three years. Government has recently permitted parallel marketing of SKO for import and sale by private agencies/entrepreneurs, through their own distribution network at market prices.

Achievement of target at Karimpur (West Bengal)

3716. SHRI ASHIS SEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the target of exploratory to a depth of 3,700 Mtrs. at Karimpur in West Bengal could not be achieved; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, indicating the difficulties, the attempts made to overcome the same and the time period elapsed so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Dies not arise.

मध्य प्रदेश और उड़ीसा में पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों के वितरण और बिक्री केन्द्र

3717. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव** : क्या **पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश और उड़ीसा में उन कस्बों/गांवों के नाम क्या हैं जहां पर रसोई गैस, पेट्रोल, डीजल और मिट्टी के तेल की खुदरा बिक्री और वितरण के लिए एजेंसी/केन्द्र खोलने के लिए प्रस्ताव 31 जनवरी, 1993 तक की स्थिति के अनुसार विचाराधीन हैं;

(ख) वितरण/बिक्री केन्द्रों को खोलने के लिए की गई कार्यवाही का राज्यवार ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) रायगढ़ जिले के जशपुर नगर में ये वितरण/बिक्री केन्द्र खोलने को स्वीकृति देने का प्रस्ताव कब से विचाराधीन है और इस संबंध में 31 जनवरी, 1993 तक की स्थिति के अनुसार कितनी प्रगति हुई है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) :

(क) पिछली विमान योजनाओं के स्थगित पड़े प्रस्तावों के अतिरिक्त, सरकार ने हाल ही में खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र/एस० के० ओ०–एल०डी०ओ०/एल०पी०जी० के लिए विपणन की योजनाएं स्वीकृत की हैं जिनमें निम्नलिखित विवरण के अनुसार मध्य प्रदेश तथा उड़ीसा में डीलरशिप/डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव है :—

	खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र	एल० पी० जी० एस०के०ओ०/एल० डी० ओ०	
	1988–93	1992–94	1989–93
मध्य प्रदेश	100	52	8
उड़ीसा	29	2	7

(ख) स्वीकृत विपणन योजनाओं के अनुसार डीलरों/डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरों का चयन करने के लिए मध्य प्रदेश और उड़ीसा के लिए अलग-अलग तेल चयन बोर्डों का गठन किया गया है ।

(ग) वर्ष 1991 में जिला रायगढ़ के जशपुर में एक खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र की डीलरशिप स्वीकृत की गई थी । अब इस संबंध में स्थगन आदेश हटा लिया गया है और खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र को [illegible] करने की अनुमति दे दी गई है ।

Procurement of Spares by ONGC

3718. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the prescribed norms for inventory holdings of stores and spares by ONGC is the consumption requirement for 9 months and 18 months respectively;

(b) whether it is also a fact that ONGC has been procuring excess spares much more than the prescribed norms of inventory holding;

(c) whether ONGC continues to procure spares in excess of its consumption despite the ban on procurement of spares due to inventory being much more than the norms, if so , what is the value of "material in transit"; and

(d) the actions taken by Government to optimise the value of material in transit and also the action taken against the officials who have continuosly been procuring spares despite ban on it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA : (a) These norms were reduced to 9 and 18 months respectively in 1990 from the earlier norms of 12 and 24 months respectively.

(b) and (c) Although the present holdings of spares is in excess of the prescribed norms, the procurement of spares is under control and is on an average only 20% above the consumption. This is a reasonable buffer warranted by operational requirements. The ban on procurement of spares was imposed by ONGC in 1987 to control inventory by effecting essential and judicial procurement. Nevertheless, purchase of spares for meeting operational requirement was allowed with the specific approval of Regional Director. The value of Material-in-Transit was Rs. 187.51 crores as on 31-3-92.

(d) Efforts have been made to minimise the time for various activities involved in clearance of material, once it is received at port and for onward despatch to the project so as to reduce the material in transit.

Import of Crude Oil and Petroleum Products

3719. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) what was the initial estimate of import of crude oil and petroleum products during 1992-93 and the estimated cost of the same.

(b) what is the revised estimates of import of these items during 1992-93 due to slippages in domestic crude oil production and what is the revised estimated cost of the same; and

(c) the manner in which the extra finances would be met by Government and to what extent it would have adverse impact on the balance of payments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH